



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

April 12, 2005

News Release

ICE DEPORTS 59 HAITIANS

38 Felons Among the Deported

MIAMI- A 32-year-old man convicted of nine counts of kidnapping with a deadly weapon was one of 59 Haitian nationals deported yesterday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers.

Jean Julex Alusma entered the United States on May 5, 1978 as a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR). Alusma was placed in removal proceedings based on his aggravated felony convictions. An immigration judge found him ineligible for any form of relief and ordered him removed on Oct. 4, 2001. His subsequent appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) was dismissed on Feb. 13, 2002.

Raymond Joseph, 56, was also among the deported. Joseph was convicted on June 1, 1992 for attempted sexual battery on a minor. He entered the country in 1979, and became a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) on Dec. 19, 1987. An immigration judge revoked his status, and ordered his removal on June 28, 1999. Joseph's appeal to the BIA was dismissed on Feb. 2, 2000.

Of the 59 deported, 38 were felons convicted of crimes ranging from armed robbery and sexual abuse to narcotics possession and kidnapping.

"Both Alusma and Joseph squandered the opportunity given to them by the United States when they broke our laws by hurting the innocent," said Michael Rozos, Florida's filed office director for detention and removal. "Those who think that they are immune to deportation because they have a legal status in this country need to think twice. Criminals will be held accountable for their actions."

Aliens are deported aboard both commercial and government aircraft. The government's aircraft is run by the U.S. Marshal Service, and is called the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System (JPATS). JPATS is one of the largest transporters of prisoners in the world and handles hundreds of requests every day to move prisoners and criminal aliens nationally and internationally. There is an automatic 10-year bar against deported aliens from legally re-entering the U.S.

Illegal re-entry after deportation is a prosecutable felony offense that carries a possible 25-year prison sentence.

The Office of Detention and Removal (DRO) focuses on promoting public safety and national security by ensuring that all aliens who are subject to deportation are removed from the United States as expeditiously as possible

Last year, ICE removed a record setting 160,000 aliens; approximately 53 percent were criminal aliens. ICE's Florida field office has removed 1,617 aliens since the beginning of fiscal year 05; 862 were criminal aliens.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.